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E. S. H.

A BRILLIANT AURORA, FEBRUARY 22, 1894.

An unusually brilliant display of the Aurora Borealis was witnessed pretty generally over the northern coast on the evening of February 22, 1894, between 7 and 8 o'clock. Mr. G. MUECKE, voluntary observer of the Weather Bureau near Aurora Mills, Oregon, sends a sketch in colors and a good description of it as witnessed by him, from which the following is condensed : "At 7:23 P. M. the northern horizon suddenly became a bright yellowish green, and soon, straight, broad rays (never more than four or five at a time) of a very light golden color shot up from just under the *Great Bear*, moving westward, each ray not lasting over 10 seconds ; at 7:30 the sky just above the yellowish green, became a light blood-red extending almost to the altitude of the pole, about the same height as the rays. The whole phenomenon seemed to constantly move westward from its origin a little east of and under the *Great Bear*, disappearing under *Cassiopeia*. The three colors were intensely distinct between 7:35 and 7:45 P. M., Pacific Standard time. No corona borealis was formed, however. After 7:50 the phenomenon faded slowly and ended at 8:07 P. M."

The aurora was reported as being seen at Portland and Cascade Locks, Oregon; Boise, Idaho; Verdi, Nevada; Tacoma, Seattle, and Spokane, Washington, and Wheatland, California. It was seen here at Mount Hamilton for about three-quarters of an hour. The descriptions of it are generally the same.

Professor CAMPBELL says he very often finds the *spectrum* of the aurora in the sky even when the aurora itself is not visible to the eye.

C. D. P.